## SENATOR ANTHONY J. MUSTO

Legislative Office Building, Room 2200 Hartford, CT 06106-1591 Tel. 860-240-0498 Toll-free 1-800-842-1420 www.SenatorMusto.cga.ct.gov



## State of Connecticut

SENATE

Twenty-second District

Chair Government Administration & Elections Committee Member

Assistant Majority Leader

Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee **Judiciary Committee** Public Health Committee

September 9, 2014

RE: Petition No. 1104

Dear Siting Council Members,

I am State Senator Anthony Musto and I represent the 22<sup>nd</sup> District, which includes Bridgeport's Black Rock neighborhood near the Seaside Landfill.

I am writing you today to express my unwavering support for the Green Energy Park project. It represents a bullish investment in Bridgeport's future. It creates jobs today while further positioning Bridgeport for the jobs of tomorrow. And, it will generate clean energy that helps ensure our kids breathe cleaner air, which is critical in a city that has some of the highest asthma rates in the state.

The Green Energy Park will create jobs today. According to United Illuminating (UI), Green Energy Park will create up to 92 jobs. It's expected to earn \$7 million in tax revenue during its 20 year lease.

That's impressive for property that long served as a dump, and has been dormant for years.

This project also helps position Bridgeport as a place where our kids and grandkids will choose to live, work, and raise a family. The state's largest city is nearing a renaissance. It's doing so in large part by revitalizing run down properties, turning them into job creators and revenue generators. In doing so, it's helping to make Bridgeport a place where companies want to invest and hire people. This project continues that trend, creating jobs and producing revenue.

In addition, the Green Energy Park will power thousands of homes with clean and affordable energy, which helps ensure our kids and families breathe cleaner air. The fact is that solar power generation produces no air pollution, and fuel cells emit virtually no air pollution since they generate electricity using a chemical press where water is the main byproduct.

Producing energy that is virtually pollution free is critical in Bridgeport, which has asthma rates that are nearly 3 times higher than the state average. And, research is clear that decreasing pollution derived from energy sources helps people with asthma and respiratory ailments breathe easier.

The bottom line is that Bridgeport needs to create jobs now. It needs to prepare for a more prosperous future. And, it can do so through clean energy projects like this, which helps to lower asthma rates.

I urge the Siting Council to do what's right for Bridgeport and approve this project.

Sincerely,

State Senator Anthony Musto

Email: attymusto@sbcglobal.net